

2015 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 6170016 NAME: City of DuBois

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda. (This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.)

WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION:

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact John "Herm" Suplizio, City Manager, at (814) 371-2000. We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held at 7:00 P.M. on the second and the fourth Monday of every month in the Council Chambers located in the City Building at 16 West Scribner Avenue. There is an open forum at each meeting where questions and/or concerns are addressed.

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

The water source for the City of DuBois is surface water from the Anderson Creek Reservoir. The reservoir is fed by three principal streams; Anderson Creek, Dressler Run and Montgomery Run. The reservoir was first constructed in 1903, subsequently expanded in 1925 and again in 1936. The reservoir covers 210 acres, has a perimeter of 5 miles and collects surface water from a drainage area of 26.2 square miles. The reservoir was designed to contain 615,000,000 gallons of water. The water is treated at the DuBois Water Treatment Plant.

A *Source Water Assessment* of our source was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP). The Assessment found that the most significant potential sources of contamination within the watershed that contribute water to the Anderson Creek Reservoir are transportation corridors, stormwater runoff from agricultural fields, lawn care and golf courses, and malfunctioning on-lot waste disposal. Each potential source of contamination has been rated as being of a high priority according to its potential to impact the water supply. Overall, the watershed contributing raw water to the purification plant has little risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the *Source Water Assessment & Protection Web* page at (<http://www.dep.state.pa.us/dep/deputate/watermgt/wc/Subjects/SrceProt/SourceAssessment/default.htm>). Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the Pa. DEP Northcentral Regional Office, Records Management Unit at (570) 327-3565.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* (800-426-4791).

MONITORING YOUR WATER:

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2014. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data is from prior years in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. The date has been noted on the sampling results table.

DEFINITIONS:

Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

pCi/l =picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

Qtr = Quarter

Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

Chemical Contaminants								
Contaminant	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Barium	2	2	0.0088	N/A	ppm	August 2014	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chlorine	MRDL =4	MRDLG =4	1.9	1.0-1.9	ppm	2014	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Fluoride	2*	4	0.738	N/A	ppm	August 2014	N	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60	N/A	35.6	17.8-50.4	ppb	2014 (4th QTR)	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Combined Radium	5	0	1.3	N/A	pCi/l	2014	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMS)	80	N/A	29.3	12.1-45.6	ppb	2014 (2nd QTR)	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

*EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human health.

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual							
Contaminant	Minimum Disinfectant Residual	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Units	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Chlorine	0.2	0.15	0.15-1.94	ppm	2014	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Lead and Copper							
Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 th Percentile Value	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead	15	0	3.03	ppb	1 out of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.213	ppm	0 out of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Microbial					
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest # or % of Positive Samples	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	For systems that collect <40 samples/month: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 1 positive monthly sample 	0	0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

Turbidity						
Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Source of Contamination
Turbidity	TT=1 NTU for a single measurement	0	0.28	4/5/14	N	Soil runoff.
	TT= at least 95% of monthly samples ≤ 0.3 NTU		100%	2014	N	

Total Organic Carbon (TOC)					
Contaminant	Range of % Removal Required	Range of percent removal achieved	Number of quarters out of compliance	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
TOC	0-35	0-52.9	0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

Note: Alternative compliance criteria (ACC) were used to determine compliance.

HEALTH EFFECTS: N/A

OTHER VIOLATIONS: There were no violations reported for 2014.

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.**
- **Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater run-off, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.**
- **Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.**
- **Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.**
- **Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and DEP prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA and DEP regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* (800-426-4791).

Information about Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of DuBois is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

OTHER INFORMATION:

There were no detects of Volatile Organic Compounds, Inorganic Compounds, or Synthetic Organic Compounds.

The City is proactive about the protection of their water supply and is participating in DEP's Source Water Protection Technical Assistance Program (SWPTAP). In 2010, a Watershed Management Committee was formed to create recommendations for the controlled development of Marcellus shale gas wells that would minimize the potential for impact on the City's water supply. Also, an updated Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) is currently being completed in 2014. The SWAP will include an assessment of potential sources of contamination to the City's reservoir, as well as to groundwater, due to the groundwater wells that were drilled as a supplement to the City's water supply.

A PDF copy of the most recent Annual Drinking Water Quality Report can be found at <http://www.duboispa.gov/notices/>.

